Great Lakes Fishery Trust Grant Awards

1. City of Traverse City - $1 million – *Beginning the Removal of the Boardman River Dams: Removing/Restoring Brown Bridge Dam.* The project will remove the Brown Bridge Dam, one of three dams targeted for removal by the City of Traverse City and Grand Traverse County. This is the first of three dams scheduled for removal on the Boardman River. When all three dams are removed, it will result in the restoration of over 3 miles of cold water stream, 253 acres of wetlands, and 57 acres of upland habitat.

2. Great Lakes Commission - $500,000 – *Envisioning a Chicago Waterway System for the 21st Century*. The project, totaling $2 million, will develop scenarios and investigate associated options, methods, costs, impacts, and benefits of ecologically separating the Mississippi River and Great Lakes watersheds, with a focus on the Chicago Area Waterway System to help prevent the arrival of Asian Carp and other invasive species.

3. The University of Michigan – $500,000 – *Great Lakes Coastal and Nearshore Database and Classification Framework.* The first of its kind, a Great Lakes coastal and nearshore database and classification framework will be developed that integrates key habitat components to address local, lake-wide, and basin-wide restoration and management needs. The tool will provide managers with an essential capability to link, map, and prioritize restoration projects in the Great Lakes system and deliver the first consistent geographic framework to integrate and track coastal monitoring, assessment, indicator development, ecological forecasting, and restoration activities across the Great Lakes.

4. Central Michigan University - $257,000 – *Quantification of the Success and Potential Impacts of New Rock Ramp Fish Passages in the Saginaw Bay watershed.* The goal of this project is to determine if rock ramp fish passage devices, a relatively new way to provide fish passage at low-head barrier dams, is having the expected and desired outcomes without undesirable negative consequences.

5. Purdue University - $385,000 – Researchers will examine large river mouths flowing into Lake Michigan to better understand the importance of these areas for yellow perch recruitment. These habitats likely provide favorable environments for larval fish growth because of their unique thermal, light, nutrient, and biological properties.

6. U.S. Geological Survey, Western Fisheries Research Center - $240,000 – *Inter-laboratory Testing for Field Validation of Diagnostic Methods to Detect and Quantify Renibacterium salmoninarum.* Scientists will develop standardized diagnostic tools to determine Bacterial kidney disease (BKD) caused by *Renibacterium salmoninarum* (Rs) that has been associated with large mortality events in Chinook. This project is designed to enhance the capabilities of Great Lakes laboratories to perform standardized tests via workshops and training, to evaluate the reproducibility and ruggedness of laboratory-validated assays during multilaboratory use, to evaluate capabilities of laboratories and instrumentation for performance of specific tests, and to harmonize existing test methods and resolve inter-laboratory differences.

7. Michigan State University - $220,000 – *Emerging Flavobacterium spp in the Great Lakes Basin: Identification and Assessment of their Impacts on Fish Health.* This study will elucidate epizootiology/pathogen-host interactions of emerging flavobacteria, while evaluating potential measures to prevent their spread with fish stocked into the Great Lakes. Such information is essential for developing management strategies to control flavobacterial diseases and minimize impacts in wild and hatchery settings.